THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVEN TIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a)'to (d) In the second meeting of Indo-Moroccan joint commission held in New Delhi on 26-27 June, 1995 sectors identified with potential for joint ventures and co-operation between two sides included, inter-alia, non-conventional energy sources. On the request of Govt, of Morocco, an Indian expert was deputed to Morocco from December 25—31, 1994 for advising the Moroccan Government on intensiye use of solar cookers in Morocco. The visit of the expert generated a lot of interest in the field of renewable energy. In his report, the expert has mentioned that the environmental conditions of Morocco are very appropriate for extensive use of solar cookers and related technology and Indian design of solar cooker is more suitable for them. The report also mentioned that Indian solar cooker and hybrid solar cooker can fulfill the cooking requirements of Moroccan people in the target areas.

Development Board for Eastern Uttar Pradesh

1726. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to constitute any development Board to remove the economic backwardness of Eastern Uttar Pradesh on the lines of Vidharva Development Board; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to remove the backwardness of this area?'

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Maintenance and repair fund

1728. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal received by the Government to increase the Maintenance and Repairs Funds (M&RF) under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Scheme from the states;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time likely by which the proposals would be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposals were received from Government of Meghalaya in 1992-93 and Government of Bihar in 1993-94.

(c) The proposals were not cleared as expenditure on operation & maintenance in excess of the prescribed limit of 10% of annual allocation under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme is to be met out of State Sector Minimum Needs Programme Funds and non-plan provision made by the State Government.

चुनावों से पूर्व प्रधान मंत्री का जम्मू और कश्मीर का दौरा

1729. **श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय :** क्या प्रधान मंत्री 3 अगस्त, 1995 को राज्य सभा में दिए गए अतारांकित प्रश्न537 में दिये गए उत्तर को देंखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या प्रधान मंत्री चुनावों से पूर्व जम्मू और कश्मीर राज्य का दौरा करने का विचार रखते हैं, और

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबधी ब्यौरा क्या है?

प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री भुवनेश चतुर्वेदी): (क) और (ख) इस समय, इस बारे में कुछ भी कहना संभव नहीं है ।